



WOODCRAFT MATTERS

THE NEWSLETTER OF WOODCRAFT MANNINGHAM

NOVEMBER 2023

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Christmas lunch on Friday December 8 at 12.00 pm at the Templestowe Hotel, 23 Parker Street, Templestowe Lower 3107. We will be on the upper level of the Bistro, away from the children's play area! Bring your Show & Tell but space will be limited so just bring one piece each.

The AGM was on 2 October at the club. See below, for the report I presented to the meeting, for the past year.

Committee Update

The Warrandyte festival will be held on Saturday 20 April next year. We will continue to make bird boxes with the kids and will again be selling woodwork items. If you can make a few items eg. bowls, carvings, boxes, toys that can be sold, that would be great.

There will be no charge at the club for tea & coffee any more. Water & soft drink will still need to be paid for. Also, on the kitchen shelf there is a container for biscuits. The club will not provide them, but often groups have some left over, and they can be placed in the container to share with other groups. Please purchase milk as needed and Bill Wood will reimburse you.

The committee would like to know how new members have found out about the club. Could group leaders ask, and email me the results?

We are also looking for someone to help with PR in the community. If a few people do this it will help the club to continue to grow.

Included with the newsletter is a flyer advertising the club. Help spread the word by printing and placing it out in the community.

John Paine

2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As president of the club completing my seven years starting in 2016 there continues to be lots happening. Some of the things have been happening for many years but I continue to learn new things about the running of the club.

Group leaders

The backbone of the club, without them all would stop. Thank you to all group leaders

There are 10 groups which meet each month with 10 Group leaders

Monday

Wood Turning: Don MacDonald

Tuesday

Toy group Charles: Hooi

Wood carving : Ernie Gmehling

Wednesday

Woodturning morning: Bert Lopes

Woodturning afternoon: John Tarry

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Woodcraft Manningham

www.woodcraft-manningham.org.au

Opposite 8 Anderson St, Templestowe
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Clubroom Phone 9846 8148

President: John Paine 0411 451 234
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Secretary Trevor Jenkins 0407 825 474

Committee Members

Allan Way 9459 9049
Stuart Watson 0425 713 012
Bob Edwards 0417 230 026

Membership Secretary Bill Wood

Newsletter: Woodcraft Matters

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Members' contributions to the Newsletter are always welcome. Please note that contributors are responsible for the accuracy of any information they send in for publication. The Editor takes no responsibility for correcting spelling and punctuation errors.

Our clubhouse was once Templestowe Primary School, originally built in 1874. It is situated on the lands of the Wurundjeri people and we wish to acknowledge them as traditional owners. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

Front Page logo image: Valerie Forbes, 2016

CHRISTMAS LUNCH—LAST CHANCE

Friday December 8, Templestowe Hotel

Spouses and partners welcome

Contact Bill Wood 0403 329 577



Pictured above is a pair of candlesticks and a snuffer that I was asked to make for St Pauls Anglican Church Westmeadows as a memorial for an Anglican Priest who died recently.

They are made from an old recovered redgum house stump and finished with 5 coats of Rustins Danish oil. They are fitted with brass spiked candle holders to hold the 150mm x 70mm candle. Size, 150mm across the base 120mm high and 80mm at the top.

Allan Way

CLUB ROOM EMERGENCY RESPONSE

IF AN AMBULANCE IS CALLED TO THE CLUB ROOMS, QUOTE THIS LOCATION:

OPPOSITE 8 ANDERSON ST, TEMPLESTOWE, BEHIND THE MANNINGHAM/TEMPLESTOWE LEISURE CENTRE.

MAKE SURE SOMEONE IS WAITING AT THE STREET TO GUIDE THE AMBULANCE IN, AS THEY MAY MISS THE ENTRANCE. (These directions are also posted above the phone in the foyer of the club rooms)

REPORTS FROM THE GROUPS

THURSDAY MORNING

The Thursday Morning Carvers continue to enjoy their company and their carving projects each week.

Charles and Pauline have completed their transition to a new residence at their retirement village. It was a big task with a lot of clearing out of valued treasures. We all look forward to Charles and Pauline returning to Thursday mornings.

Bryan and his wife Bev have also made the big move from their family home to a retirement village and again this was a huge challenge downsizing particularly with Bryan needing to clean out his workshop treasures. It will be good to see Bryan return to Thursday mornings once they are settled.

Rick again dominated the Boort Show's woodwork display, winning first prize.



Bill Wood also had great success with his entries. Rick took a number of entries from the club to enhance the wood work display at his home town country show.



WM Club Entries at the Boort Show

Bob has continued to expand his carving expertise of the written word, and his current projects have an impressive word count.



Mel has been toiling away at a snail's pace on a door stop



featuring a garden snail with its tail holding the door open.

Peter has been completing a teddy bear and comfort birds on the days he is able to join the group.

Hank continues to expand his collection of hand held abstracts with his renowned smooth finish.

John has finished off a hand sitting on a hand rail which is now looking for a home alongside a set of steps somewhere.



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John also continues to work on some small projects and is currently working on an abstract.

Thanh has completed an almost life size wombat with amazing facial expressions and features, as well as a gum leaf study. It is always a pleasure to see Thanh's artistic talents.

I have continued to try and improve my lettering and line carving on the side of different boxes. My other project has been finishing some details on a wombat that has been waiting for some features.

Mark Heland



SAFETY CUT-OFF SWITCHES

There are two Safety Cutoff switches in the clubroom, located at each end of the workshop.

In the case of an accident with a machine, pushing either Safety cutoff switch will turn off all machines. These switches were installed after an accident with a lathe. The user had glued pieces of timber together and was turning them when the glue joint failed. A piece of timber was thrown from the machine, hitting the user in the head and knocking him out, with the loss of a lot of blood. The lathe continued to run with the timber out of balance, shaking the lathe violently. At that time there was only an on/off switch on the motor. Members could not reach this switch with the lathe out of control so had to crawl along the floor to reach the power point.

We now have Safety cutoff switches so that anybody at either end of the workshop can hit a switch and power to all machines will be turned off.

It is recommended that each group talk about how these operate and when you need to use them. Have a go with some machines going to see what they do. To reset the power, just twist the red knob and you're ready to go.

Be aware that some machines will need to be manually turned on again after you reset, and other machines will turn on again by themselves.

John Paine



AN EPIC PROJECT

It was post COVID lockdown, when we were allowed to leave home and attend group activities again, that the Thursday night turners gathered. Once we had signed in and sanitized, and from behind our masks, we asked one another what we had been doing during lockdown. There were many and varied stories about what had or had not been achieved!

Our group leader, Allan Way, advised he had built "Allan's Folly". Allan subscribes to an American wood turning magazine and the diversity of ideas and projects in the magazine is substantial. The original project, I gather the "folly", was able to play a tune when you cranked the handle and lifted the hammers that then dropped on to a



xylophone type keyboard. The piece in the photo has 4 cams to lift the hammers, and no keyboard.

Allan advised he had a lot fun turning the pieces for his "folly", a total of about 37 individual pieces, then final assembly. The wood used in this project is Blackwood (supplied by Ron Bentley, Thursday turners). Note the 4 corner towers. When turning these pieces, going from the square profile to the round profile the edge is almost guaranteed to split or splinter. But when you are home in lockdown, time seems to be available to perfect these cuts and techniques.

It has been my practice to make each of our grandchildren a wooden truck for their first birthday. It takes me about 12 months from birth to first birthday to make them. I usually make a flat-bed trailer (with handles) that the children can sit on and the parents can drag the children



around. And yes, the trucks can have up to 3 trailers, to suit the number of grandchildren.



But it was time for something different! I could make a truck and trailer with more than 37 turned pieces! I spent my working career working with trucks, so the design for a timber jinker trailer came to mind. At least all the "logs" would be turned and that would add to the count .

First the trailer axle wheels and spacers, about 16 turned pieces .



The log retainer verticals made up another 16 turned pieces, plus the 8 logs .



The most challenging was the crane and related mechanism. It is straightforward to turn up the cable drum to wind the boom and lift rope in and out, but very tricky to hold the rope in place when a load is “on the hook”.



The mechanism that I found worked was a wooden ratchet wheel of plywood with “teeth” to act as stops and spring mounted lever that then stopped the rope drum from feeding out when loaded.



Note the horizontal pieces on the crane turret (top right). I tried my luck with turning square pieces of wood into round ends without them splitting or splintering. There were pieces of firewood on the shed floor to prove this technique can be mastered with practice.

Our grandson is going to be two by the time this newsletter comes out so I missed giving him a truck for his first birthday, but hopefully this different type of trailer will



make up for the delay.

The wood I used is from an old office desk, a variety of eucalyptus, and it has 2 two coats of an oil based Estapol. Our neighbour has an Oak tree, and a branch came down, and a piece of the Oak tree is now one of the logs!

I would like to thank Allan Way (and all the group leaders) for his patience in training me in the various techniques of wood turning. And thanks for the challenge for the number of turned pieces in a project. Perhaps I should call the trailer “Phil’s Folly!”

How many turned pieces did you count?

Phil Leach, Thursday night turners.



Thursday

Carving morning: Mark Heland

Carving afternoon: Trevor Jenkins

Wood turning: Allan Way & Stuart Watson

Friday

Carving: Geoff Francis

Box making: Bill Wood, Austin Polley & Roy David

Committee

Thankyou to Bill Woods for all the work with the treasurer's role, banking, council, memberships & more. Thankyou to Bob Edwards for work as secretary, keeping me updated with what needs to be done and has been done. Committee members Allan Day, David Cretney, Trevor Jenkins, Stuart Watson & new member Ernie Gmehling for continual support of the club. David Cretney is stepping down from the committee - he has also worked in the safety committee. Thankyou David for your passion for the club.

Committee for 2023-24

President	John Paine
Vice President	
Secretary	Trevor Jenkins
Treasurer & membership	Bill Wood
Committee	Allan Way
	Bob Edwards
	Stuart Watson

Health & safety

Now integrated with the Committee.

Thankyou

Charles Hooi for maintenance of equipment.

Mel Forbes for a great effort on the newsletter every month.

Library continues to be a great resource with Mel Forbes as Librarian

Web site updates by Colin Cassells

Club meetings

Have been put on hold but will start again with speakers from our membership

Purchases

None

Events for the year that members attended included

First Aid course attended by 20 members & 5 wives

Australia Day activity was cancelled

Warrandyte festival including assembling 100 bird boxes

Wood carving in May at Bacchus Marsh & in September in the basketball centre.

The Christmas party

Did not happen in 2022 but is planned for this year , on Friday Dec 8

Other happenings

Tidying day at club in October 23

Signs outside of building advertising club

New mobile phone number for club enquiries so as not to publish personal phone numbers

Facebook page established

Council news

None

I look forward to leading the club as president for another year.

John Paine

2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING—SHOW-N-TELL



A SELECTION OF WOOD PORN

[September Carve-In](#)

[More September Carve-In](#)

[Turning Walnut Shells!](#)

[Deluxe Tool Box](#)